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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/715,040

11/17/2003

Ying Su

8858

7590

01/17/2007

Dianyi Yu  
222 Black Birch Pass  
Lilburn, GA 30047

EXAMINER

THANH, LOAN H

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

3763

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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3 MONTHS

01/17/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/715,040

Applicant(s)

SU ET AL.

Examiner

LoAn H. Thanh

Art Unit

3763

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 November 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-6 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05/23/06 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☒ Other: drawings not approved

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Response to Amendment***

Applicant confirmed that no IDS has been filed in this application.

The amendment to the specification has been withdrawn in view of the amendment filed 05/23/06.

The drawing objections have not been fully overcome. Applicant has not shown the limitations which are objected to in the drawings. It is unclear how the connection can have all three "versions" of the coupling. Applicant has only shown three separate coupling which is the internally threaded coupling. It appears that Applicant should attempt to claim alternatives of the coupling rather than all 3 couplings. Further, applicant appears to have added new matter to the drawings with respect to element 52'.

Applicant is requested to always place a claim status identifier with the claim number. For example, claim 6 is new. "(NEW)" should be labeled beside claim 6 to avoid non-compliance. All claims are not present in the marked up copy filed 05/23/06. For example claim 6 is missing. Applicant should include claims 1-6 in his/her next response.

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a). The drawings must show every feature of the invention specified in the claims. Therefore, the three versions of the coupling (claim 4) must be shown or the feature(s) canceled from the claim(s). No

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new matter should be entered. It appears that the thread of the barrel shape is internal and not external..

The drawings are objected to because Applicant has shown new matter in figures 3-4 with respect to element 52'.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The amendment filed 05/23/06 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment

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shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: The element 52' in figures 3-4. Any reference to reference numeral 52' in the drawings or in the disclosure should be removed. The specification which includes the reference of Gauthier 3921635. This information was not as originally filed. Applicant should be arguing this reference that the Examiner presented in the office action under the heading arguments and should not be amending the specification to include this reference or any new information which pertains to this reference into his/her disclosure.( See page 4 paragraph 2 of applicant's sub specification.)

Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action. Applicant is requested to submit a marked up and clean copy of a substitute specification.

Applicant is reminded of the proper language and format for an abstract of the disclosure.

The abstract should be in narrative form and generally limited to a single paragraph on a separate sheet within the range of 50 to 150 words. It is important that the abstract not exceed 150 words in length since the space provided for the abstract on the computer tape used by the printer is limited. The form and legal phraseology often used in patent claims, such as "means" and "said," should be avoided. The abstract should describe the disclosure sufficiently to assist readers in deciding whether there is a need for consulting the full patent text for details.

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Further, since it appears that this is a replacement abstract. Applicant is requested to show the markings of the amendment in the next response to correct the deficiencies.

### ***Claim Objections***

Claims 1-6 are objected to because of the following informalities:

Claim 1 has multiple sentences. Claim should only have 1 sentence.

Claims 2-6 should be consistent with claim 1 and recite "The shower head device of claim 1 further comprising ..."

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. The flexible obtuse angle was not originally filed.

Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not

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described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

Applicant further has no support for a device having at least 3 coupling means.

Applicant has only one coupling means with any one device. Applicant has support for 3 alternative types of coupling. However, applicant has no support for at least 3 couplings in one device at the same time.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claim 1 includes multiple sentences. Applicant is required to have only 1 sentence in each claim. Applicant has not positively claimed the nozzle. As such, only an engagement means is a structural limitation. Further, it appears that the engagement means and the coupling structure is the same limitation and it is unclear what the coupling structure or the engagement means is if they are separate structures.

Claims 5-6 are vague and indefinite because it is dependent on 3 other claims. It is unclear how the coupling means has at least 3 forms. In any one device, applicant has only 1 form of the coupling means.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-2, 4,6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gauthier (USPN 3,921,635).

Gauthier discloses a shower head device having an engagement means device comprising a thread 117 in an annular recessed cylindrical wall around a spray nozzle considered the elements shown in figures 15-16. Figure 1 would anticipate claim 1. The connection is show in figures 2, 5-6 where the douche is snap fitted over the shower head. The Examiner has interpreted the claims as best understood by the Examiner.

Claims 1,6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Havican et al. ( US 6,123,272).

Havican et al. discloses a shower head device having removal nozzles which are inserted by a twist and turn type connection. These nozzles are removable and as such if one desires to insert a douche with a similar connection end it would be capable of performing that function. Applicant has only claimed an engagement means around a spray nozzle with a built in coupling structure for a thread fir or snap fit attachment. Applicant has not claimed any further distinguishing features.

***Response to Arguments***

Applicant has not submitted any arguments with the amendment filed 05/23/06. Although it appears that applicant is giving a bonafide attempt. The Examiner will not treat the response as Non-compliance at this time. However, in applicant's next



response applicant is to provide the arguments in the response and not into the specification. In view of applicant's amendments, the amendments have created some unclarity. The

Applicant is recommended to contact the Examiner for an interview to clarify the claim language.

### ***Conclusion***

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LoAn H. Thanh whose telephone number is (571) 272-4966. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon. - Fri. (First Friday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nick Lucchesi can be reached on (571) 272-4977. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



LoAn H. Thanh  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3763

LT  
01/06/06

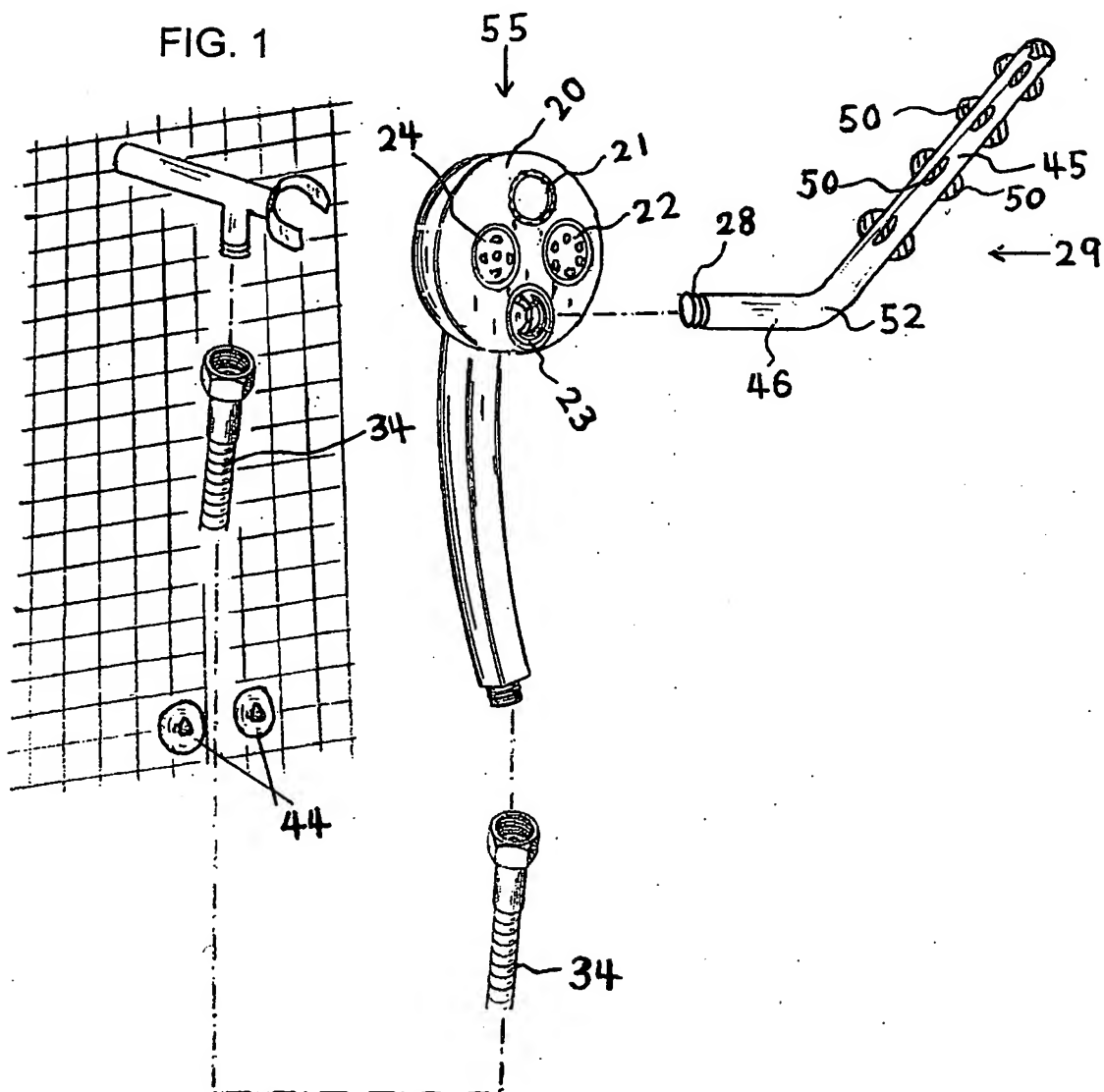


A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet

1/6



1/5/07

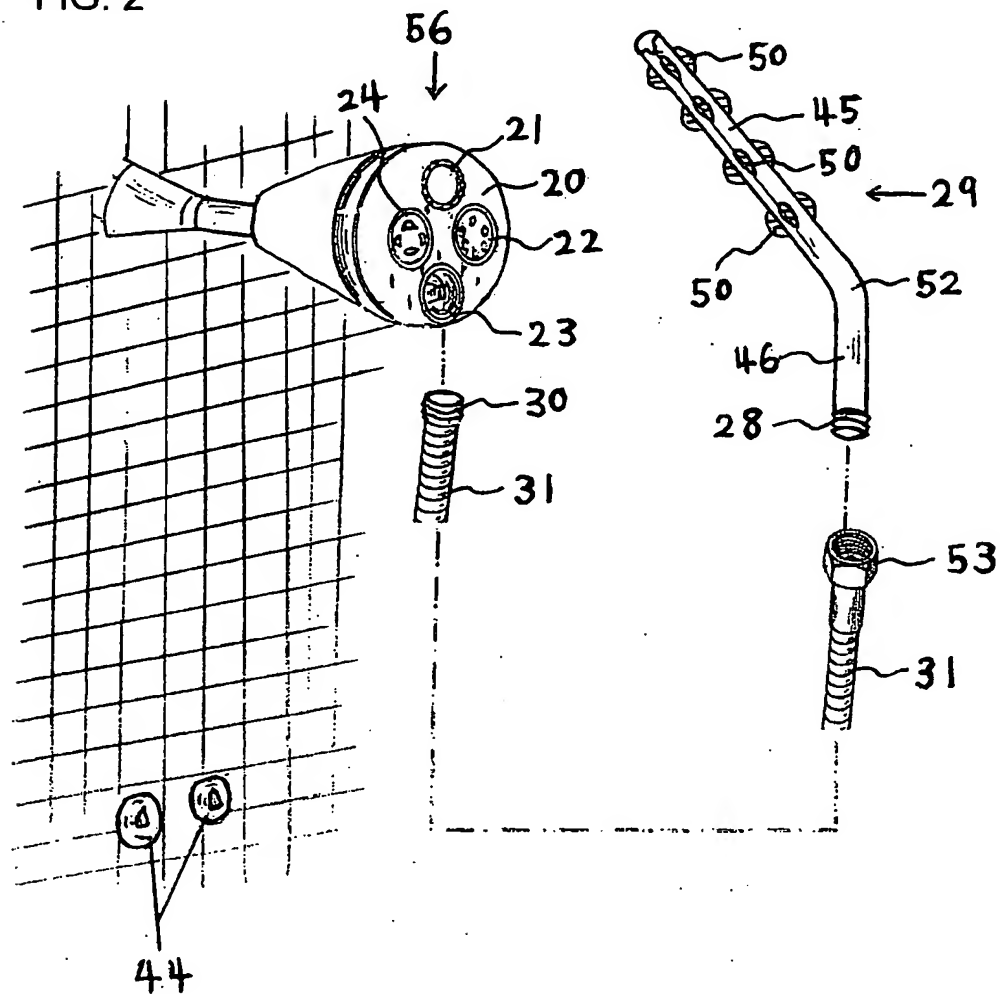
A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet

2/6

FIG. 2



88  
1/5/17

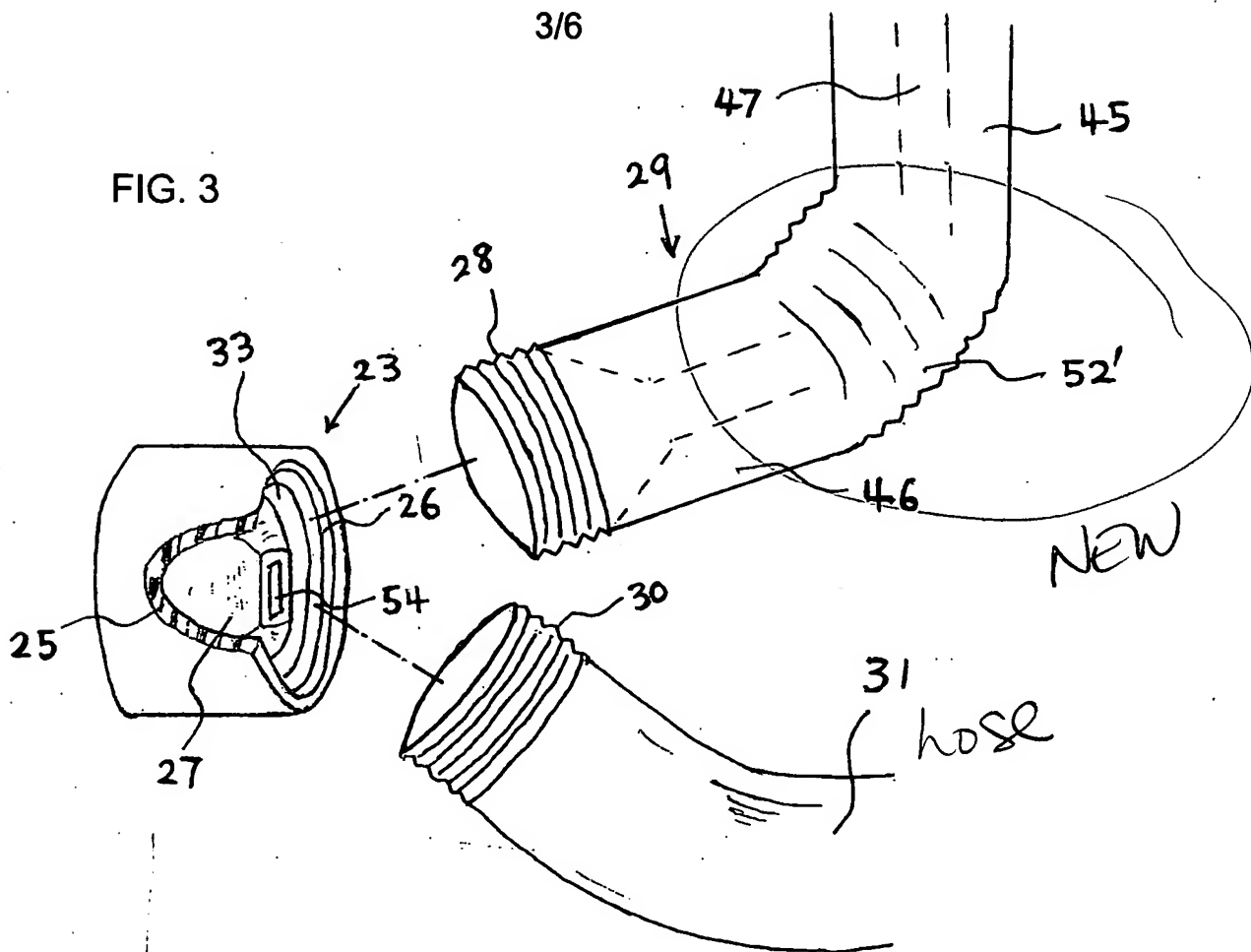
A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet

3/6

FIG. 3



A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet

FIG. 4

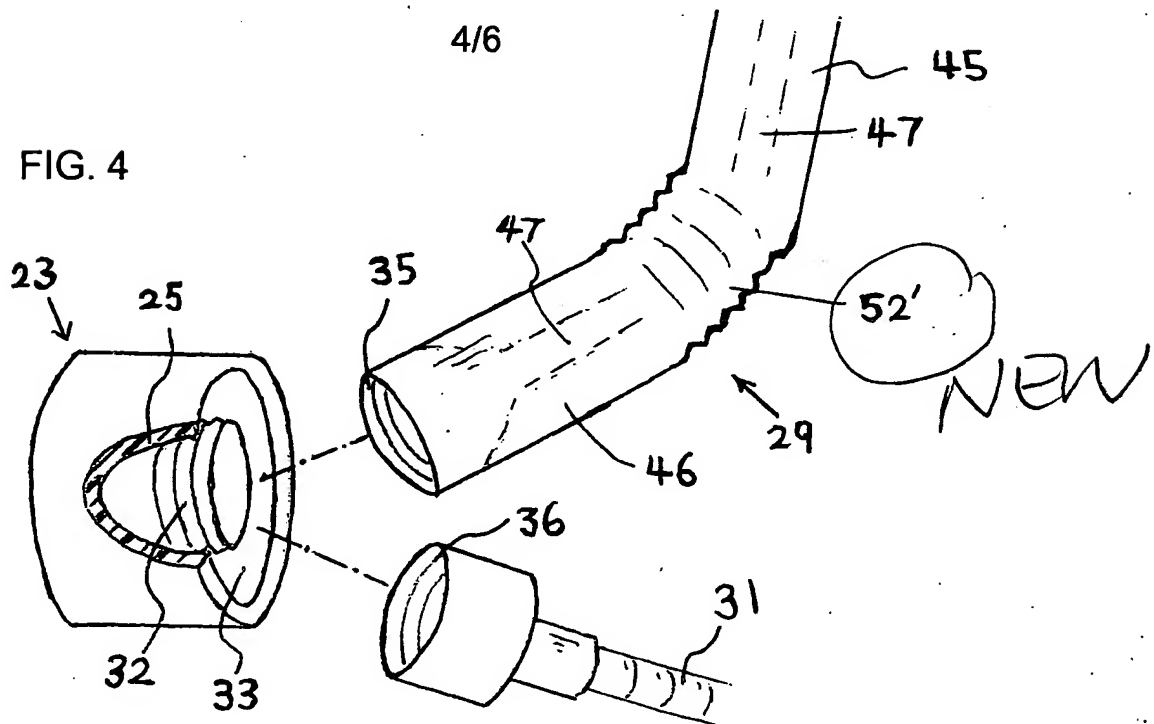
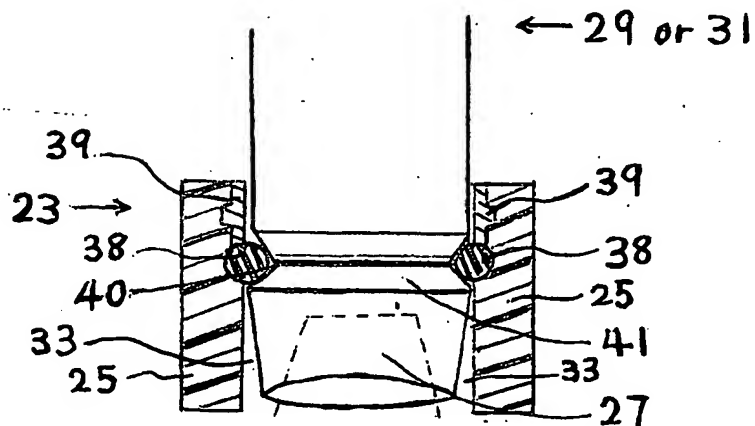


FIG. 5

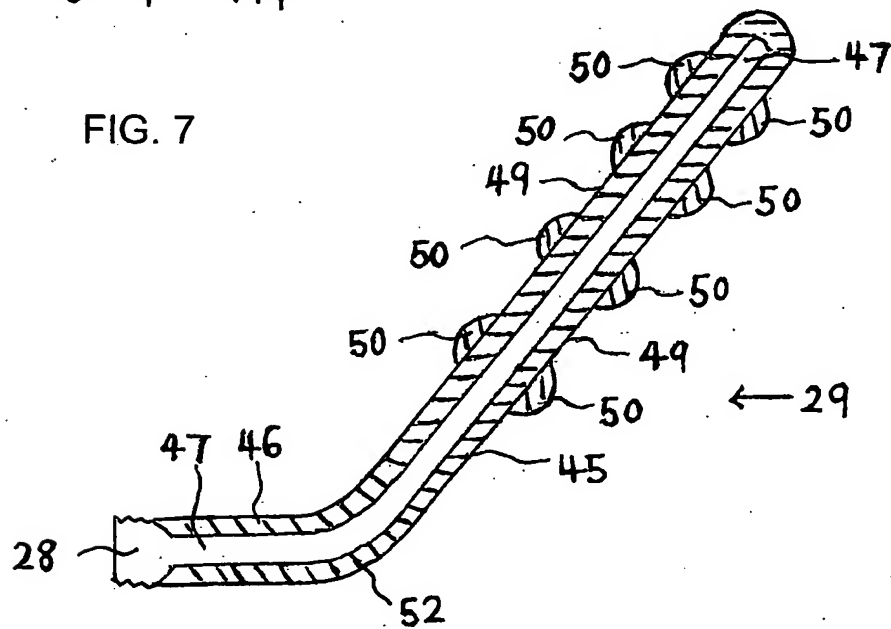
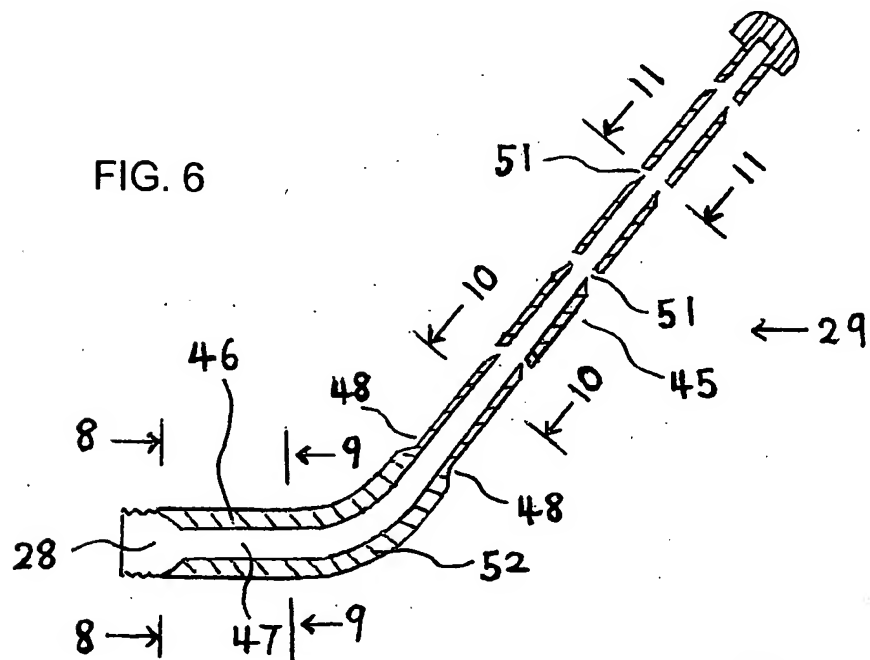


Not ok  
1/5/17

A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet 5/6



11/5/17

A novel function, douche mode, is built into the hand-held and wall-mounted showerheads for women's personal hygiene

Ying Su; Dianyi Yu;  
404-409-9165

Replacement Sheet 6/6

FIG. 8

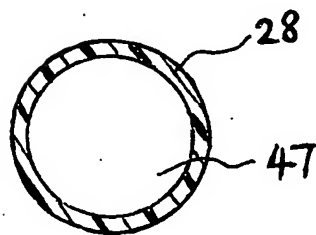


FIG. 9

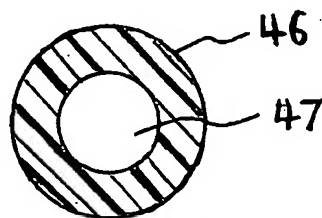


FIG. 10

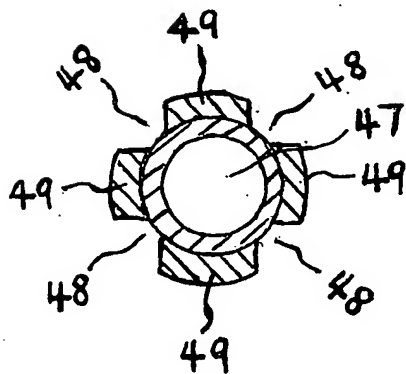
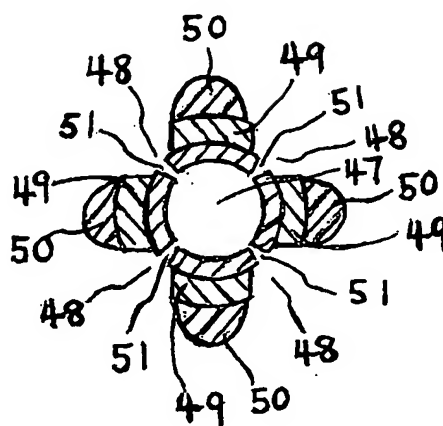


FIG. 11



du  
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